



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:15 a.m. EDT (NOAA)

Agricultural Weather Highlights - Monday - August 25, 2003

- ***In the West***, generally beneficial showers across the ***Four Corners region*** continue to ease irrigation demands and provide limited drought relief, although local flash flooding remains a concern. Hot, dry weather persists, however, across the ***northern Rockies*** and ***northern Intermountain region***, hampering wildfire containment efforts and straining drought-reduced irrigation reserves.
- ***On the Plains***, a late-summer heat wave and mostly dry conditions favor fieldwork, including spring wheat harvesting, but are severely stressing pastures and immature summer crops.
- ***In the Corn Belt***, isolated showers and thunderstorms dot ***northern and western portions of the region***, providing limited relief to drought-stressed corn and soybeans. However, unfavorably hot weather persists across the ***southwestern Corn Belt***, where today's high temperatures are forecast to approach 100 degrees F, with locally higher readings across ***northern Missouri*** and ***southern Iowa***.
- ***In the South***, very warm weather is promoting summer crop maturation and fieldwork, including initial harvest activities. Isolated showers continue in some areas, especially in ***Florida*** and parts of the ***western Gulf Coast region***.

Outlook: For much of the week, a broad area of high pressure will provide above-normal temperatures and mostly dry weather from the ***central Plains eastward to the Atlantic Coast***. However, a weak cold front will generate scattered thunderstorms from the ***northern Plains into the Northeast***. Farther west, monsoon showers will continue across the ***Southwest and Great Basin***, while moisture will spread into the ***northern and central Rockies*** by mid-week. Elsewhere, scattered showers and thunderstorms will linger in the ***Gulf Coast and Southeastern States***. The NWS 6-10 day outlook for August 30 - September 3 calls for above-normal rainfall in ***central and southern portions of the Rockies and Plains***, along the ***Gulf Coast***, and in the ***Southeastern and Mid-Atlantic States***. Meanwhile, drier-than-normal conditions are likely in the ***Pacific Coast States*** and parts of the ***upper Midwest***. Cooler-than-normal weather is forecast for most locations ***east of the Rockies***; no large-scale areas of above-normal temperatures are expected.

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Web Site: <http://www.usda.gov/oce/waob/jawf/AgWxHighlights/TODAYSWX.PDF>